

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 8-11 are pending in this application. Claims 2-7 are canceled.

Claims 1-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended claims 1, 8, 9, and 11 as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants believe this rejection has been overcome.

Claims 1 3-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada (U.S. Patent 6,996,764). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada. Claims 1, 4, 6-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zafer et al. (article entitled "Performance Comparison of Selected DC-Free Codes for PR1-Equalized Magnetic Recording Channels"). Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zafer.

The independent claims have been amended to include the limitations of canceled dependent claim 2. Specifically, the claims now recite "wherein the first finite state transition diagram accords with (2, 7) run length limited code conversion rules." The Examiner concedes that neither Yamada nor Zafer disclose the use of a (2,7) RLL code. Rather, the Examiner contends the use of a (2,7) RLL code would have been obvious because it is a well-known standard type of RLL code. Applicants respectfully disagree and request the Examiner

provide a reference which can be combined with Yamada or Zafer to meet this limitation.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Yamada and Zafer (alone or in combination) fail to meet this limitation and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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